

Via ECFS

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

August 28, 2018

Re: Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) to Accelerate  
Investment in Broadband and Next-Generation Networks, WC Docket No. 18-141

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing to you on behalf of KCBX, Inc, a public radio station providing unique local, regional, and national news, information and music for the Central Coast of California from Salinas to Ventura. We are a longtime Digital West customer, and we urge you not to grant USTelecom's petition.

KCBX uses Digital West's fiber optic network as well as other services that are provided on lines leased from AT&T as part of the critical infrastructure to support our programming and the Emergency Alert System (EAS) in our area of operation. KCBX is an EAS LP2 station. Digital West also provided and maintains our telephone system.

KCBX has worked with Digital West for 35 years. Our station has grown significantly over this period of time, and Digital West has been an invaluable partner, saving us money and creatively and strategically devising unique technical solutions over the years. They are also an important community member, supporting this public radio station as well as other nonprofits throughout the area.

KCBX would have an extremely difficult time operating without the resources of Digital West if this petition is granted and the company is no longer able to meet our needs. Fiber optic services and event telephone lines are much more expensive from AT&T. For example, an alarm line that does not require power to operate is \$40.00 per month from Digital West and over \$100.00 per month from AT&T. The station needs several of these alarms to operate safely.

Please do not end the ability of providers like Digital West to offer an alternative to the incumbent telecom providers such as AT&T.

Sincerely,

*Frank Lanzone*

Frank Lanzone, Jr.  
President & General Manager  
KCBX, Inc.